Fire facts 6/15/13

The Moab Interagency Fire Center is managing multiple fires that started with dry lightning strikes Thursday night near East Carbon, Moab and Blanding. Those fires, driven by wind and terrain, were moving in a northeasterly direction Saturday.

The 915-acre Lackey Fan Fire is burning in pinyon juniper forest in the Manti-La Sal National Forest 20 miles southeast of Moab. More crews joined the 20-person initial attack crew on Friday, and a Type II Incident Management Team will arrive in Moab Saturday night to begin the transition to managing the fire. Nine 20-person crews are fighting the fire or en route to the scene.

The Rock Creek Fire is burning in steep terrain on state land in the Book Cliffs, about 15 miles east of East Carbon. Two Hotshot crews are battling the fire, supported by three helicopters that are dropping retardant and water on the 235-acre blaze. The fire is burning in timber at 8,000 feet and threatening some structures on the Tavaputs Plateau.

A new fire — named the Dark Canyon Fire for its origin near the Dark Canyon Wilderness Area — was reported Friday afternoon; it had grown to 150 acres Saturday morning.

Also in the Manti-La Sal National Forest, smoke jumpers made progress Friday and Saturday against several smaller fires in the Abajo Mountains, including at Butts Point, North Long Point and Horse Mountain.

Agencies involved in managing the multiple fires are the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, State of Utah, San Juan County and Carbon County.